

the Ivory Coast and the members are elected from that party. So they are here interested in agriculture and they have been making a swing around the United States and are about winding it up in the next day or so. So it is our pleasure to have you, ladies and gentlemen, please come back again. Give them a round of applause, please. Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens has guests under the north balcony. We have with us Steve Driggs who is a representative of the United Transportation Union in North Platte. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us today. We will move on to LB 1105, please, priority bill, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 1105 was introduced by Senator Miller. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 13 of this year, Mr. President. It was referred to the Revenue Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I have committee amendments pending by the Revenue Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I move for the adoption of the committee amendments. This is a homestead exemption bill and let me just explain the bill a little. It changes the definition of household income and raises the level of income qualified for property tax relief. And this amendment, the committee amendments, change the proposed household income levels to only one category of 10,400 with a 100 percent exemption for homestead claimants. No partial relief categories would be granted, like it's in the original bill. In addition, a corrective amendment was adopted to change the qualified income level for elderly homestead claimants. The elderly category was inadvertently omitted in the original draft. Those with a gross income of 10,400 and below do not file a state income tax report now. And, so, at the hearing nobody said that they really needed or wanted a partial exemption, so this is why we left it out. We did this...this bill was brought to us because of a change in the state income tax law. And the reason for this change is because now those that file Nebraska state income tax cannot deduct tax exempt bonds issued by other states. So I move the adoption of the committee amendment and would be happy to try and answer any questions, if there are any.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, did you wish to speak about the amendments?